

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~14-0010~~ CH-837

Address: 7665 Crain Highway, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata

Owner: Wolf, Cavin J

Tax Parcel Number: 29 Tax Map Number: 44

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: X no yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility **not** recommended X

Criteria A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G X None

Is property located within a historic district?: X no yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed?: X no yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

7665 Crain Highway is a two-story, wood frame dwelling with a one-story, enclosed side porch. The house is covered by a hipped roof. The house sits on a brick foundation and is clad with horizontal siding. A side entry with a front gable portico, supported by Tuscan columns, occupies the northern end of the façade (east). The columns sit on a brick base.

Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland. La Plata station still stands at the intersection of the rail line with Charles Street.

As La Plata grew, Charles County citizens lobbied to have the county seat moved from Port Tobacco to La Plata.

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.

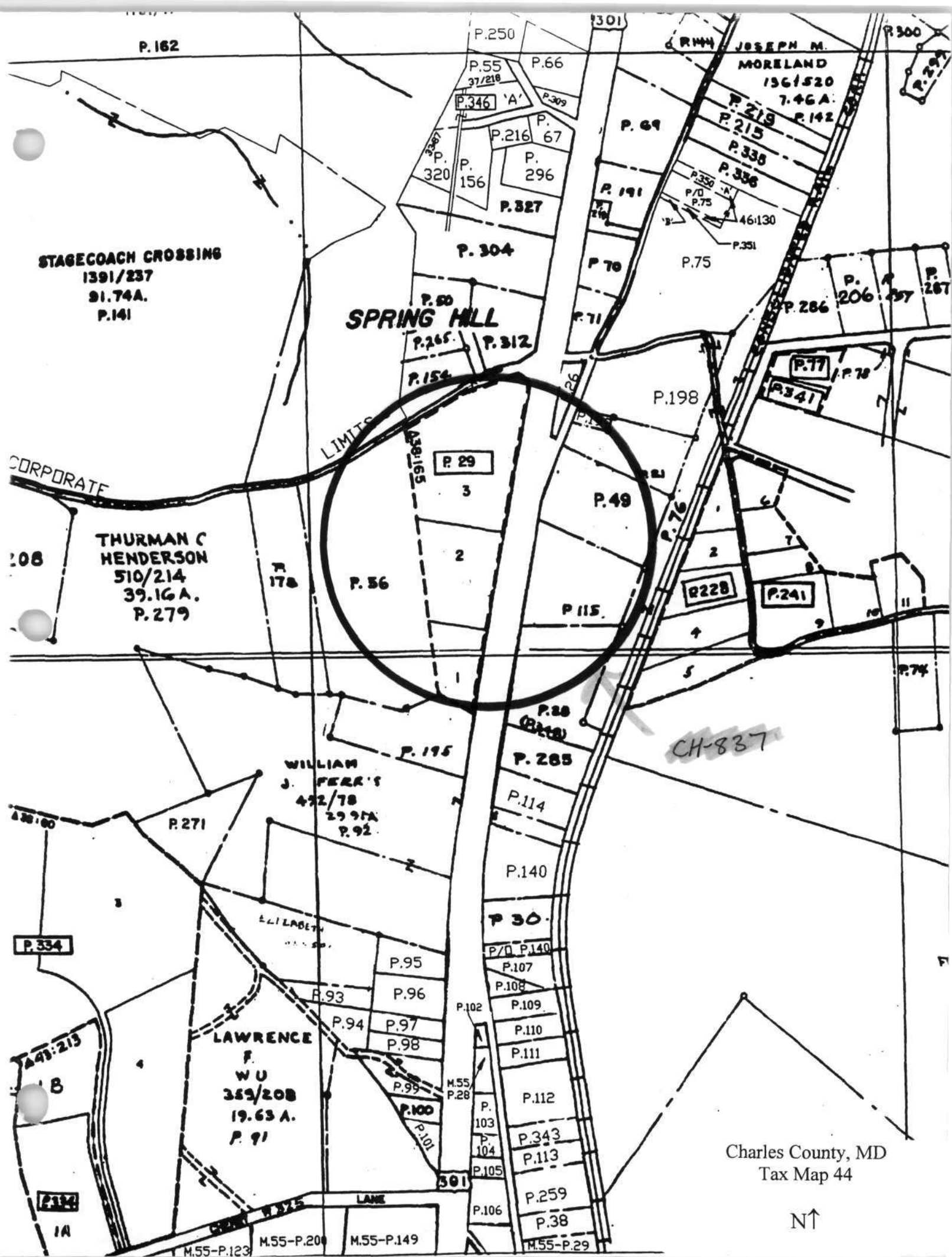
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: <u> </u> A <u> </u> B <u>X</u> C <u> </u> D	Consideration <u> </u> A <u> </u> B <u> </u> C <u> </u> D <u> </u> E <u>X</u> F <u> </u> G <u> </u> None
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/27/09</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

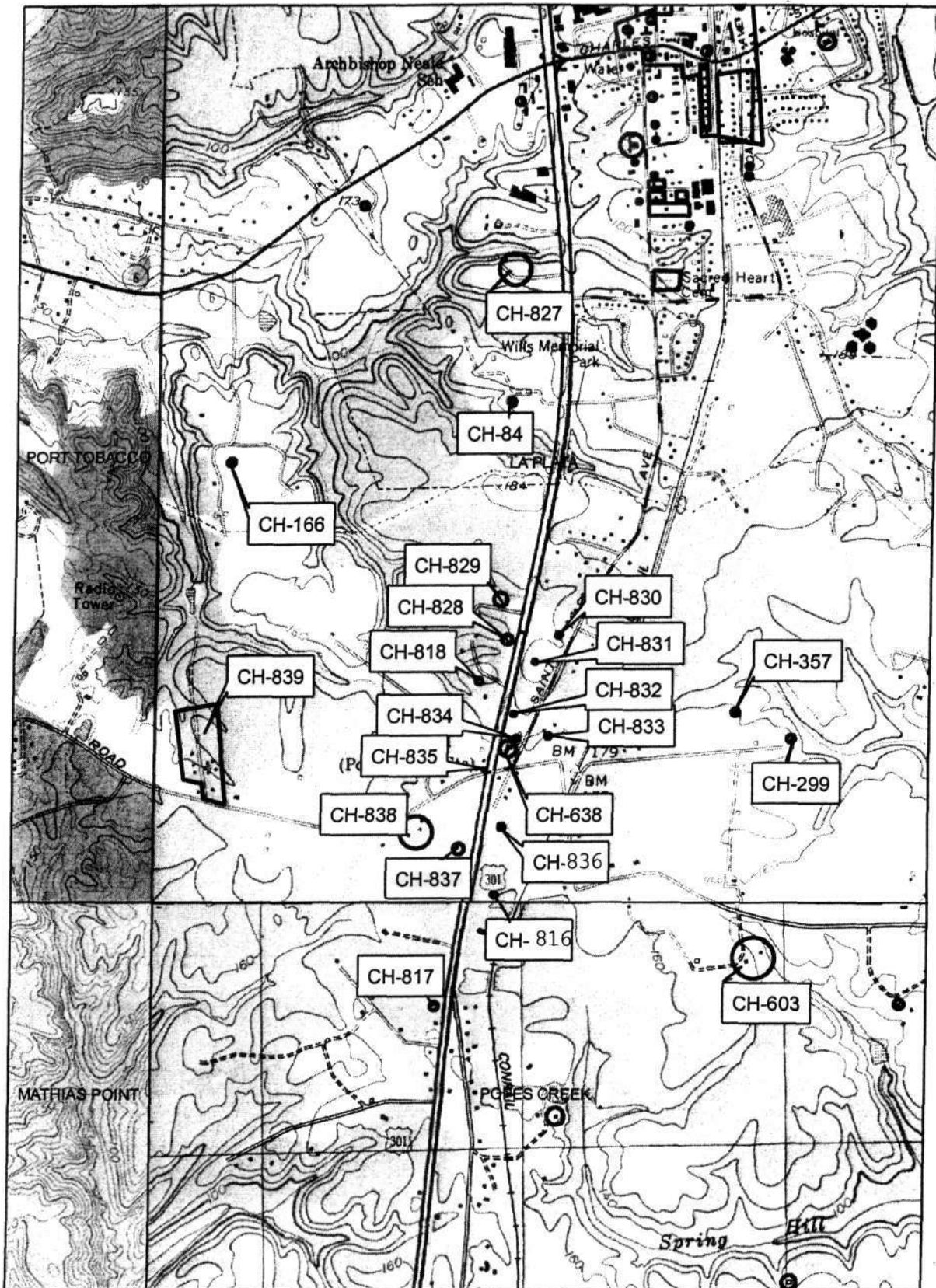
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La Plata became the county seat of Charles County's government in 1895 and a new courthouse was erected in 1896.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s.

Built circa 1900, this Colonial Revival-style house is not eligible for the National Register. While it is an earlier example of the residential development along U.S. 301, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.







~~CH-837~~ CH-837

7665 Crain Highway
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking west

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